



Ben Gonring graduated with high honors from the University of Notre Dame in May of 1993, earning a B.A. in Government. He received his J.D. from the University of Wisconsin Law School, graduating with honors in December of 1995. Admitted to the Bar in January of 1996, he began working for the Office of the State Public Defender in June of the same year. He was honored with the agency's Outstanding Achievement Award in November of 1997 and later with induction into the Rubin Society for "outstanding contribution to the community." In 2005 he was given Dane County's Competency Builder Award, presented for "years of service and dedication to the kids and families of Dane County." He was presented in 2009 with the Ervin Bruner Award, given annually to someone in Dane County who has made "substantial contributions to juvenile justice" over their career. In 2018, the Wisconsin Law Journal named him a "Leader in the Law." He has four times been named by Madison Magazine one of the Dane County's top lawyers in the area of Juvenile Law. Representing children in both delinquency and protective services cases, as well as parents in termination of parental rights cases, he has worked in the juvenile unit of the Madison Trial office his entire career and has been the head of that unit since 2009.